

Message Text

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14

ACTION EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3567

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 0798

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBSR, SN, SA

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR OVERSEAS BUSINESS REPORTS AND GENERAL
ECONOMIC DATA

REF SINGAPORE 0472 (NOTAL)

1. FIRMS SHOULD GET INFO FROM RECENTLY PUBLISHED OBR DOING
BUSINESS IN SAUDI ARABIA PRIOR TO TRAVEL HERE WERE HOTEL
RESERVATIONS AT PREMIUM AND 5-YEAR PLAN PROJECTS YET TO BEGIN.

2. OFFSHORE DRILLING EQUIPMENT DEALERS SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON
ARAMCO, DHAHRAN AREA. DOMESTIC ADVERTISING IS RESTRICTED
SAUDI FIRMS BY SAG REGULATIONS. POTENTIAL ALL FIELDS APPEARS
BRIGHT BUT AURA OF EUPHORIA DIMS WHEN CONFRONTED BY PROBLEMS
OF ACCOMMODATIONS, PORT PROBLEMS INVOLVING 120/150 TURN
AROUND TIME, \$42 THOUSAND DOLLAR YEARLY HOME (UNFURNISHED)
RENTALS, AND NECESSITY FINDING APPROPRIATE LOCAL AGENT WITHOUT
WHICH NONE CAN EFFECTIVELY OPERATE HERE.

3. PRIME U.S. CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING FIRMS ARE IN DEMAND
FOR TENDERS ON PROJECTS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS.
ALL FIRMS ESTABLISHING HERE TO DO A PROJECT MUST BRING
IN WORKERS AND PROVIDE OWN HOUSING. SUCCESS IN ANY SAUDI
ARABIAN VENTURE REQUIRES SEVERAL PERSONAL VISITS.
PORTER

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